

- III. "On a Method of Destroying the Effects of slight Errors of Adjustment in Experiments of Changes of Refrangibility due to Relative Motions in the Line of Sight." By E. J. STONE, F.R.S., Director of the Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford. Received January 17, 1881.

Let arrangements be made for the reversion of the prisms without any disturbance of the other optical arrangements, including, of course, the position of the cylindrical lens, if one be used. Any slight errors of adjustment which prevent the light from the star and the comparison light from falling upon the train of prisms under the same optical circumstances, so far as mere direction is concerned, will have opposite effects in the reversed positions of the prisms; but the separation of the emergent lights due to relative motion will remain unchanged by the reversal of the positions of the prisms.

If, therefore, the apparent change of refrangibility due to relative motion remains unchanged by the reversion of the prisms, all doubts about the effects of errors of adjustment will be removed. But if the results in the reversed positions of the prisms sensibly differ, then the existing errors of adjustment must be removed, or their effects allowed for by taking a mean of the results in reversed positions, before any reliance can be fairly placed upon the determination of relative motions in the line of sight.

A reversible spectroscope was arranged by me, and made by Mr. Simms, some years ago, but I have never since had an equatoreal, with a good driving clock, under my control with which the experiment indicated could be properly tried.

With the direct prisms now in use, the required reversion can be easily arranged. I am not likely, for some time, to have the use of a good equatoreal, and I, therefore, publish the plan with the hope that some one more fortunately situated may give it a fair trial.

The experiment is a crucial one, and, in my opinion, should be tried.

- IV. "On an Improved Bimodular Method of computing Natural and Tabular Logarithms and Anti-Logarithms to Twelve or Sixteen Places, with very brief Tables." By ALEXANDER J. ELLIS, B.A., F.R.S., F.S.A. Received January 17, 1881.

SECTION I.—NATURE OF THE BIMODULAR METHOD AND ITS IMPROVEMENT.

The *Bimodulus* is a constant, which is exactly double of the modulus of any system of logarithms. The *Bimodular Method* is derived from

the familiar proposition that, when the difference of two numbers is small, the difference of their logarithms is nearly equal to the bimodulus multiplied by the difference and divided by the sum of the numbers themselves. The improvement here for the first time effected, consists in prefixing a brief *preparation*, which makes the method universally applicable, and subjoining an easy *correction* depending on the transformation of a well-known series proceeding by the odd powers of the difference divided by the sum of two numbers, whereby the number of places obtained is greatly increased. This method is here applied for finding the natural and tabular logarithms of any number to twelve places of figures by means of a table of two pages for each kind of logarithm, and to sixteen places by help of a seven-place table of tabular or Briggs's logarithms. An extremely simple rule, which, so far as I know, was never before imagined, enables us to pass from the logarithm to the number, that is, to find anti-logarithms from the same tables. Although the method is applicable to any system of logarithms, and was actually first applied by me to the direct calculation of musical logarithms to the bases 2 (octave),  $^{12}\sqrt{2}$  (equal semitone), and  $81 \div 80$  (comma), and appropriate tables have been constructed, I confine myself for brevity to natural and tabular logarithms. The tables are constructed from existing materials, but the method is capable of constructing them independently.

## SECTION II.—PRINCIPLES OF THE BIMODULAR METHOD AND ITS IMPROVEMENT.

*Fundamental Relations.*—Let  $n$  and  $d$  be any whole numbers of which  $d$  is the smaller, and let  $p = d \div n$ , a proper fraction. Let

$$\text{nat. log } (1+p) = y, \text{ and } \log (1+p) = My \quad . \quad . \quad (1)$$

where  $M$  is the modulus, and hence  $2M$  the bimodulus to any unspecified system of logarithms marked by  $\log$ . Let

$$\frac{d}{2n+d} = \frac{p}{2+p} = q, \quad 2q = x, \quad 2Mq = Mx = z \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (2).$$

In future  $n$  and  $n+d$  will often be called “the numbers,”  $n$  “the tabular number,”  $d$  “the difference,”  $2Md$  “the dividend,”  $2n+d$  “the sum” or “divisor,” and  $2Md \div (2n+d)$  “the quotient.”

Now it is familiarly known that

$$y = p - \frac{1}{2}p^2 + \frac{1}{3}p^3 - \frac{1}{4}p^4 + \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (3),$$

$$= 2(q + \frac{1}{3}q^3 + \frac{1}{5}q^5 + \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (4).$$

Putting in (4) the values of  $q$  in terms of  $x$  and  $z$  from (2) we have

$$y = x + \frac{1}{12}x^3 + \frac{1}{80}x^5 + \frac{1}{448}x^7 + \dots = x + c \quad (5),$$

$$My = z + \frac{1}{12} \cdot \frac{z^3}{M^3} + \frac{1}{80} \cdot \frac{z^5}{M^5} + \frac{1}{448} \cdot \frac{z^7}{M^7} + \dots = z + Mc \quad (6).$$

And putting for  $x$  and  $z$  their values from (2) we find

$$2p = (2+p)x, \quad 2Mp = (2+p)z, \quad \text{whence } 1+p = \frac{2+x}{2-x} = \frac{2M+z}{2M-z} \quad (7),$$

And by expanding the first of these equations (7)

$$x = p - \frac{1}{2}p^3 + \frac{1}{4}p^5 - \frac{1}{8}p^7 + \dots \quad (8).$$

Subtracting (8) from (3), and multiplying by  $M$  to find the  $Mc$  of (6), we have

$$My - z = Mc = M(\frac{1}{12}p^3 - \frac{1}{80}p^5 + \frac{1}{448}p^7 - \frac{1}{96}p^9 + \frac{5}{448}p^{11} - \dots) \quad (9),$$

a converging series of which the limits are the first term and the first two terms.

*Preparation.*—To insure  $p$  being small in all cases, I have invented the rule of *preparation*, founded on the fact that if  $N$  be the number whose logarithm is sought, and  $a$  and  $b$  any two numbers of which the logarithms are known, such that  $Na \div b = n + d$ , where  $n$  is the next less number to  $Na \div b$  in the table, and  $d$ , the difference, is less than the difference between two numbers in the table, then  $\log N = \log(n + d) + \log b - \log a$ . In Tables I and II the difference between two consecutive numbers is .001, and as there are 100 entries, all the numbers lie between 1 and 1.1; so that if  $Na \div b$  is less than 1.1, the required reduction is effected.

*Preparation* is accomplished in two lines of simple multiplication and division, as follows:—

The given number  $N$  is divided or multiplied by such a power of 10 as will leave the quotient or product as a decimal fraction between 1 and 10. This is effected by simply shifting the decimal point.

If the first decimal place is less than 3 times the integer (which is always the case when the integer exceeds 3), divide by the integer and divide the quotient by 1.1 or 1.2. The result is less than 1.1.

If the first decimal place is more than twice the integer, then it is always possible, generally in several ways, to find an integer between 1 and 10 which, used as a multiplier, will give a product of which the integer is less than 13, and the first decimal place less than the integer. The following rule embraces every case:—Multiply any of the numbers 1.30 to 1.340 by 4; 1.340 to 1.80 by 7; 1.80 to 1.960 by 5; 1.960 to 1.99 by 6; 2.50 to 2.99 by 4; 3.80 to 3.99 by 3. Then dividing this product by the integer the quotient is less than 1.1.

This preparation is very convenient also for starting Weddle's and

Hearn's processes given by Mr. Peter Gray in the introduction to his Tables for twelve-place logarithms, 1865 (first published in 1845), and is also very much simpler than that proposed by Mons. Thoman in his "Tables de logarithmes à 27 décimales," 1867.

*Interpolation.*—The finding of  $\log N$  is thus made dependent on finding  $\log(n+d)$ , where  $n$  is a tabular number and  $d$  is less than .001. We then find  $2Md \div (2n+d)$ , which gives the "uncorrected" logarithm of  $n+d$ , or the "quotient"  $x$  or  $z$ . The multiplication  $2M \times d$  is effected by the multiples of the bimodulus given in the tables, when  $M$  is not 1, the unit place of each multiple of  $2M$  being placed immediately below the determining figure of  $d$ , care being taken to preserve as many places as are necessary for the final result. The division is a single contracted division. The resulting  $x$  or  $z$  has to be "corrected" by the equations (5) and (6), as shown in Section III.

*Completion.*—Having found  $\log(n+d)$ , we add the logarithm of the power of 10 by which we first divided, and the logarithm of any other divisor, and the arithmetical complement of the logarithm of the power of 10 or any other multiplier. All these logarithms are given in the table. The result is the complete  $\log N$  to the number of decimal places for which the table is adapted.

*Anti-Logarithms.*—A logarithm being given we have to reduce it to the logarithm of a number between 1 and 1.1. This is most conveniently done by subtracting from it (or adding to it) the logarithm of the largest power of 10, which will make the result lie between 0 and  $\log 10$ , and afterwards subtracting the next least logarithm of an integer between 1 and 10, and then the next least logarithm of a number between 1.1 and 2. The logarithms of all these numbers are given in the table. The result will be the logarithm of a number less than 1.1. We then subtract the next less logarithm in the table of interpolation, and obtain the equivalent to the *corrected* quotient  $x+c$  or  $z+Mc$  of (5) and (6). We find the correction in the same way as for the quotient, and *subtract* it, thus obtaining  $x$  or  $z$ . Then we divide the bimodulus increased by this  $x$  or  $z$ , by the bimodulus decreased by this  $x$  or  $z$ , as in (7), and thus find  $1+p$ , which is the number corresponding to the "quotient" in the direct method. For "completion" this has to be multiplied by the numbers corresponding to all the logarithms subtracted in the preparation.

### SECTION III.—CALCULATION OF THE BIMODULAR CORRECTIONS.

The principal peculiarity of this improved bimodular method consists in the calculation of the corrections and the determination of the number of places which can be trusted in any case, as assigned in the tables.

The repetition of any digit  $m$  times within the same number will

be represented by suffixing  $m$  to the right of that digit. Thus,  $\cdot 0_m 1$  is a decimal fraction beginning with  $m$  zeroes and followed by 1, and  $\text{nat. log } 1\cdot 0_7 1 = \cdot 0_8 9_8 50_7 3_8 083_6 53_7$  to forty-eight places. Other writers have used  $0^m$  in this sense, but it is not applicable to other digits, and conflicts with the usual notation of powers, thus  $230^3$  looks like  $(230)^3 = 12,167,000$ , in place of  $23,000 = 230_3$ .

Write equations (5) and (6) thus—

$$\text{nat. log } (1+p) = x + c = x + c_1 + c_2 + \dots \quad (10),$$

$$\text{tab. log } (1+p) = z + t = z + t_1 + t_2 + \dots \quad (11),$$

where

$$c_1 = \frac{1}{12} x^3 = x^3 \times \cdot 0833 \dots, \quad c_2 = \frac{1}{80} x^5 = x^5 \times \cdot 0125 \quad (12),$$

$$\text{tab. log } c_1 = 3 \text{ tab. log } x + \cdot 920 \ 8188 - 2 \quad (13),$$

$$\text{tab. log } c_2 = 5 \text{ tab. log } x + \cdot 096 \ 9100 - 2 \quad (14),$$

$$\text{tab. log } x = \frac{1}{3} \text{ tab. log } c_1 + \cdot 359 \ 7271 \quad (15),$$

$$t_1 = z^3 \times \cdot 441 \ 824 \ 842 \ 539 \ 87, \quad t_2 = z^5 \times \cdot 351 \ 376 \ 544 \ 673 \ 68. \quad (16),$$

$$\text{tab. log } t_1 = 3 \text{ tab. log } z + \cdot 645 \ 2501 - 1 \quad (17),$$

$$\text{tab. log } t_2 = 5 \text{ tab. log } z + \cdot 545 \ 7728 - 1 \quad (18),$$

$$\text{tab. log } z = \frac{1}{3} \text{ tab. log } t_1 + \cdot 118 \ 2500 \quad (19).$$

By means of these equations the corrections can be calculated from the “quotient” (that is, the approximate values of  $x$  and  $z$ ) either with or without existing tables of logarithms, or the quotient  $x$  or  $z$  may be calculated to which a particular value of the first correction is due.

From these has been calculated the following table of the critical values of the first and second corrections, upon which the whole practical use of the corrections depends. The quotients were first taken to proceed from  $\cdot 0_m 1$  to  $\cdot 0_m 9$  by steps of  $\cdot 0_m 1$ . Then the values of the quotients were determined, which reduced either of the two first corrections to  $\cdot 0_n 1$ ,  $n$  being variable, from which point the suffix of 0, or the number of initial zeroes, changed, giving critical values of the corrections. Such quotients were then inserted in numerical order. The approximate numbers were obtained from the quotients on the supposition that  $p$  was small enough to make  $\text{nat. log } (1+p) = p$ , and  $\text{tab. log } (1+p) = Mp$ , to three places of significant figures.

The suffix of 0 in the first correction, diminished by 1, shows the number of places which are unaffected by that correction, that is, the number of places in the uncorrected quotient which may be trusted without corrections. The undiminished suffix shows a number of places which cannot be wrong by more than one unit in defect in the

Table of the Critical Values of the Corrections.

I. Natural logarithms.				II. Tabular logarithms.			
Approximate number.	Exact quotient.	Value of $e_1$ .	Value of $e_2$ .	Approximate number.	Exact quotient.	Value of $t_1$ .	Value of $t_2$ .
1 $\cdot 0_m$ 100	$\cdot 0_m$ 100	$\cdot 0_{3m} + \cdot 833$	$\cdot 0_{5m} + \cdot 125$	1 $\cdot 0_m$ 231	$\cdot 0_m$ 100	$\cdot 0_{3m} + \cdot 442$	$\cdot 0_{5m} + \cdot 352$
106	106	$\cdot 0_{3m} + \cdot 3$ 100	169	284	123	827	$\cdot 0_{5m} + \cdot 100$
152	152	290	$\cdot 0_{5m} + \cdot 3$ 100	303	131	$\cdot 0_{3m} + \cdot 100$	137
200	200	666	400	450	195	329	$\cdot 0_{5m} + \cdot 3$ 100
229	229	$\cdot 0_{3m} + \cdot 2$ 100	786	462	200	353	112
240	240	116	$\cdot 0_{5m} + \cdot 4$ 100	653	282	$\cdot 0_{3m} + \cdot 100$	636
300	300	225	304	693	300	119	654
381	381	460	$\cdot 0_{5m} + \cdot 3$ 100	713	310	165	$\cdot 0_{5m} + \cdot 2$ 100
				925	400	283	360
400	400	533	128	1 $\cdot 0_m$ -1 100	$\cdot 0_m$ 434	$\cdot 0_{3m} + \cdot 361$	$\cdot 0_{5m} + \cdot 542$
493	493	$\cdot 0_{3m} + \cdot 1$ 100	365	113	491	522	$\cdot 0_{5m} + \cdot 100$
500	500	104	391	116	500	552	110
600	600	180	972	139	600	954	273
604	604	183	$\cdot 0_{5m} + \cdot 3$ 100	141	609	$\cdot 0_{3m}$ 100	295
700	700	285	210	163	700	152	590
800	800	426	409	179	778	208	$\cdot 0_{5m}$ 100
900	900	607	738	186	800	226	115
				209	900	322	207

last place. The suffix of 0 in the second correction, diminished by 1, shows how many places of the quotient, after applying the first correction, are left unaffected by the second correction, that is, how many places can be trusted on applying the first correction only. For natural logarithms it will be seen that this never gives less than  $5m+1$  places, that is,  $2m+1$  places in addition to those determined without correction. Thus in Table I, where  $m$  is never less than 3, we can always obtain sixteen places. For tabular logarithms, as in Table II, we must first observe a critical value in the numbers themselves. In that table the number  $1+p$ , whose logarithm is finally sought, must be less than 1.001. Hence, while in the upper part of the preceding table of critical values,  $m$  will always be 3 or more, in the lower part,  $m-1$  will always be 3 or more, so that  $m$  will always be 4 or more. As far then as the quotient  $\cdot 0_3434$ , the first correction gives only  $5 \cdot 3+1=16$  places, and this is the largest quotient that can commence with  $\cdot 0_3$ . If the significant figures are greater than 434, then  $m$  will be 4, and up to the quotient  $\cdot 0_4778$  we can trust  $5 \cdot 4=20$  places, and beyond it we can even trust 19 places. Observe that  $\cdot 0_9$  at the bottom of this table is followed by  $\cdot 0_31$  at the top (II, second column), for which, also, the second corrections leave  $5 \cdot 3+4=19$  places unaffected.

But in determining the full number of places of the first correction from the uncorrected quotient by equations (12) and (16), we are, of course, obliged to take so many significant places, that on cubing the result and multiplying by the proper coefficient, no error affecting the full number of places should be committed. The number of places required for this purpose is so large that if we calculated the result directly, the present method of correction would be illusory. Hence it is necessary to use common seven-place logarithmic tables which can be trusted to six places. Consequently, we can use only six significant places in the quotient for finding the correction, and we thus introduce an error not exceeding half a unit in the last place in excess or defect. On estimating the limiting effect of this error, I find practically that on using six significant places of the uncorrected quotient to determine the first correction, we may trust all six places of the correction found. The total number of places that can be trusted, when this error is allowed for, depends on the quotient. Let  $r$  be the significant places of the quotient converted into a decimal fraction with one unit place. Then the real quotient is  $\cdot 0_m1 \times r$ , but on taking only six significant places, we use as a quotient  $\cdot 0_m1 \times r \pm \cdot 0_{m+6}1 \times 5$ , and the error thus made in the correction may be taken as the term involving  $r^2$  in the cube of this number divided by  $12M^2$ , that is, as  $\cdot 0_{3m+8}1 \times 15r^2 \div 12M^2$ . Then, putting  $15r^2 \div 12M^2=10$  and 100, and finding the corresponding values of  $r$ , we obtain the critical values of the quotient where the suffix of 0 in the error of the





2. For Preparation.						
No.	Natural Logarithm.					
1·1	0·095	310	179	804	324	869
1·2	0·182	321	556	793	954	626
1·3	0·262	364	264	467	491	052
1·4	0·336	472	236	621	212	931
1·5	0·405	465	108	108	164	382
1·6	0·470	003	629	245	735	554
1·7	0·530	628	251	062	170	396
1·8	0·587	786	664	902	119	008
1·9	0·641	853	886	172	394	776
2·0	0·693	147	180	559	945	309
3·0	1·098	612	288	668	109	691
4·0	1·386	294	361	119	890	619
5·0	1·609	437	912	434	100	375
6·0	1·791	759	469	228	055	001
7·0	1·945	910	149	055	313	305
8·0	2·079	441	541	679	835	928
9·0	2·197	224	577	336	219	383
10·0	2·302	585	092	994	045	684
11·0	2·397	895	272	798	370	544
12·0	2·484	906	649	788	000	310

3. Multiples of nat. log 10.						
No. of mult.	Natural Logarithm.					
1	2·302	585	092	994	045	684
2	4·605	170	185	988	091	368
3	6·907	755	278	982	137	052
4	9·210	340	371	976	182	736
5	11·512	925	464	970	228	420
6	13·815	510	557	964	274	104
7	16·118	095	650	958	319	788
8	18·420	680	743	952	365	472
9	20·723	265	836	946	411	156
10	23·025	850	929	940	456	840
11	25·328	436	022	934	502	524
12	27·631	021	115	928	548	208
13	29·933	606	208	922	593	892
14	32·236	191	301	916	639	576
15	34·538	776	394	910	685	260
16	36·841	361	487	904	730	944

4. For no Corrections.						
For Difference, or Quotient,		Trust places, uncorrected,				
·0 <sub>s</sub> 100		9 And one place				
·0 <sub>s</sub> 493		10 more in each case				
·0 <sub>s</sub> 229		11 with a probable				
·0 <sub>s</sub> 106		12 error in it of one				
·0 <sub>s</sub> 493		13 unit in defect.				
·0 <sub>s</sub> 229		14				
·0 <sub>s</sub> 106		15				
·0 <sub>s</sub> 193		16				

For intermediate quotients trust the number of places opposite the next greater in the above table.						
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5. For Full Corrections, Additive.						
Take six significant figures of the quotient, and use six significant figures of the cor. from this formula— tab. log cor.=3 tab. log quotient+·920 8188–2. Trust all the places thus corrected, that is—						
For Difference, or Quotient,		Trust in result places,				
·0 <sub>s</sub> 100		14	And one place more in each			
·0 <sub>s</sub> 894		15	case with a probable error in it			
·0 <sub>s</sub> 284		16	of one unit in defect.			
·0 <sub>s</sub> 100		17				
·0 <sub>s</sub> 894		18				
For intermediate quotients trust the number of places opposite the next greater.						

6. For Short Corrections, Additive, giving twelve places.						
Work to thirteen places. Possible error on "completion" one unit in the twelfth place. For intermediate quotients use the correction opposite the next less.						
Quotnt.	Cor.	Quotnt.	Cor.	Quotnt.	Cor.	
·0 <sub>s</sub> 000	·0 <sub>s</sub> 100	·0 <sub>s</sub> 707	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1030	·0 <sub>s</sub> 894	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1060	
182	1	715	31	899	61	
262	2	723	32	904	62	
311	3	731	33	909	63	
348	4	738	34	913	64	
·0 <sub>s</sub> 378	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1005	·0 <sub>s</sub> 745	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1035	·0 <sub>s</sub> 918	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1065	
404	6	752	36	923	66	
427	7	759	37	928	67	
448	8	766	38	932	68	
467	9	773	39	937	69	
·0 <sub>s</sub> 485	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1010	·0 <sub>s</sub> 780	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1040	·0 <sub>s</sub> 941	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1070	
501	11	786	41	946	71	
517	12	792	42	950	72	
531	13	798	43	952	73	
545	14	805	44	959	74	
·0 <sub>s</sub> 558	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1015	·0 <sub>s</sub> 811	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1045	·0 <sub>s</sub> 963	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1075	
571	16	817	46	968	76	
583	17	823	47	972	77	
594	18	829	48	976	78	
606	19	835	49	980	79	
·0 <sub>s</sub> 616	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1020	·0 <sub>s</sub> 841	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1050	·0 <sub>s</sub> 984	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1080	
627	21	846	51	989	81	
637	22	852	52	993	82	
646	23	857	53	997	83	
656	24	863	54			
·0 <sub>s</sub> 665	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1025	·0 <sub>s</sub> 868	·0 <sub>s</sub> 1055			
674	26	873	56			
683	27	879	57			
691	28	884	58			
699	29	889	59			

## Bimodular Table II.—Tabular Logarithms.

1. Table for Interpolation.													
No.		Tabular Logarithm.					No.		Tabular Logarithm.				
1·000	·000	000	000	000	000	000	1·050	·021	189	299	069	938	073
1	·000	434	077	479	318	641	51	·021	602	716	028	242	220
2	·000	867	721	531	226	912	52	·022	015	739	817	720	259
3	·001	300	933	020	418	119	53	·022	428	371	185	486	518
4	·001	733	712	809	000	530	54	·022	840	610	876	527	803
1·005	·002	166	061	756	507	676	1·055	·023	252	459	633	711	470
6	·002	597	980	719	908	592	56	·023	663	918	197	793	454
7	·003	029	470	553	618	007	57	·024	074	987	307	426	268
8	·003	460	532	109	506	486	58	·024	485	667	699	166	953
9	·003	891	166	236	910	522	59	·024	895	960	107	485	003
1·010	·004	321	373	782	642	574	1·060	·025	305	865	264	770	241
11	·004	751	155	591	001	063	61	·025	715	383	901	340	666
12	·005	180	512	503	780	310	62	·026	124	516	745	450	260
13	·005	609	445	360	280	428	63	·026	533	264	523	296	757
14	·006	037	954	997	317	171	64	·026	941	627	959	029	378
1·015	·006	466	042	249	231	723	1·065	·027	349	607	774	756	528
16	·006	893	707	947	900	450	66	·027	757	204	690	553	459
17	·007	320	952	922	744	597	67	·028	164	419	424	469	893
18	·007	747	778	000	739	942	68	·028	571	252	692	537	612
19	·008	174	184	006	426	395	69	·028	977	705	208	778	017
1·020	·008	600	171	761	917	561	1·070	·029	383	777	685	209	641
21	·009	025	742	086	910	247	71	·029	789	470	831	855	634
22	·009	450	895	798	693	927	72	·030	194	785	356	751	215
23	·009	875	633	712	160	158	73	·030	599	721	965	951	084
24	·010	299	956	639	811	952	74	·031	004	281	363	536	802
1·025	·010	723	865	391	773	104	1·075	·031	408	464	251	624	136
26	·011	147	360	775	797	468	76	·031	812	271	330	370	371
27	·011	570	443	597	278	197	77	·032	215	703	297	981	585
28	·011	993	114	659	256	928	78	·032	618	760	850	719	897
29	·012	415	374	762	432	929	79	·033	021	444	682	910	673
1·030	·012	837	224	705	172	205	1·080	·033	423	755	486	949	702
31	·013	258	665	283	516	547	81	·033	825	693	953	310	343
32	·013	679	697	291	192	549	82	·034	227	260	770	550	632
33	·014	100	321	519	620	579	83	·034	628	456	625	320	360
34	·014	520	538	757	923	700	84	·035	029	282	202	368	120
1·035	·014	940	349	792	936	558	1·085	·035	429	738	184	548	315
36	·015	359	755	409	214	218	86	·035	829	825	252	828	143
37	·015	778	756	389	040	962	87	·036	229	544	086	294	540
38	·016	197	353	512	439	047	88	·036	628	895	362	161	100
39	·016	615	547	557	177	412	89	·037	027	879	755	774	956
1·040	·017	033	339	298	780	355	1·090	·037	426	497	940	623	635
41	·017	450	729	510	536	156	91	·037	824	750	588	341	878
42	·017	867	718	963	505	669	92	·038	222	638	368	718	428
43	·018	284	308	426	530	869	93	·038	620	161	949	702	792
44	·018	700	498	666	243	352	94	·039	017	321	997	411	969
1·045	·019	116	290	447	072	807	1·095	·039	414	119	176	137	143
46	·019	531	684	531	255	434	96	·039	810	554	148	350	354
47	·019	946	681	678	842	334	97	·040	206	627	574	711	132
48	·020	361	282	647	707	846	98	·040	602	340	114	073	104
49	·020	775	488	193	557	860	99	·040	997	692	423	490	567

Bimodular Table II.—Tabular Logarithms—*continued.*

2. For Preparation.						
No.	Tabular Logarithm.					
1.1	0.041	392	685	158	225	041
1.2	0.079	181	246	047	624	828
1.3	0.113	943	352	306	836	769
1.4	0.146	128	035	678	238	026
1.5	0.176	091	259	055	681	242
1.6	0.204	119	982	655	924	781
1.7	0.230	448	921	378	273	929
1.8	0.255	272	505	103	306	070
1.9	0.278	753	600	952	828	962
2.0	0.301	029	995	663	981	195
3.0	0.477	121	254	719	662	437
4.0	0.602	059	991	327	962	390
5.0	0.698	970	004	336	018	805
6.0	0.778	151	250	383	643	633
7.0	0.845	098	040	014	256	831
8.0	0.903	089	986	991	943	586
9.0	0.954	242	509	439	324	875
10.0	1.000	000	000	000	000	000
11.0	1.041	392	685	158	225	041
12.0	1.079	181	246	047	624	827

3. Multiples of the Bimodulus.						
No. of mult.	Value of Multiple.					
1	0.868	588	963	806	503	655
2	1.737	177	927	613	007	311
3	2.605	766	891	419	510	966
4	3.474	355	855	226	014	621
5	4.342	944	819	032	518	277
6	5.211	533	782	839	021	932
7	6.080	122	746	645	525	587
8	6.948	711	710	452	029	242
9	7.817	300	674	258	532	898

4. For no Corrections.						
Difference.	Quotnt.	Trust Places				
0.100	0.434	9	And one more place in each case with a probable error in it of one unit in defect.			
0.653	0.282	10				
0.303	0.131	11				
0.141	0.609	12				
0.653	0.282	13				
0.303	0.131	14				
0.141	0.609	15				
0.653	0.282	16				

5. For Full Corrections, Additive.						
Take six significant figures of the quotient and use six significant figures of the correction from this formula— tab. log cor. = 3 tab. log quotient + .645 2501 - 1.						
Difference.	Quotnt.	Trust places				
0.100	0.434	14	And one more place in each case with a probable error in it of one unit in defect.			
0.893	0.388	15				
0.284	0.123	16				
0.231	0.100	17				
0.893	0.388	18				

For intermediate Differences and Quotients trust the number of places opposite the next greater.						
6. For Short Corrections, Additive, giving twelve places, with a possible error of one unit in the twelfth place on completion.						
Quotient.	Correction.	Quotient.	Correction.			
0.000	0.100	0.353	0.120			
104	01	359	21			
150	02	365	22			
178	03	371	23			
199	04	376	24			
0.217	0.105	0.381	0.125			
232	06	386	26			
245	07	391	27			
257	08	396	28			
268	09	401	29			
0.278	0.110	0.406	0.130			
288	11	410	31			
296	12	415	32			
305	13	419	33			
313	14	423	34			
0.320	0.115	0.427	0.135			
327	16	432	36			
334	17					
341	18					
348	19					

For intermediate quotients take the correction opposite the next less.						
<p><i>Note.</i>—The natural logarithms to eighteen places in Table I are either taken direct or calculated (by subtracting nat. logs of 1,000 and 10) from "Wolf-ranil Tabula Logarithmorum Naturalium" to forty-eight places, appended to Vega's "Thesaurus Logarithmorum Completus," 1794.</p> <p>The tabular logarithms to eighteen places in Table II are taken direct from Mr. Peter Gray's "Tables for the formation of Logarithms and Anti-Logarithms to twenty-four places," 1876.</p> <p>In both tables the arrangement and corrections are original.</p>						

For intermediate Differences and Quotients trust the number of places opposite the next greater.						
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correction changes. The results are given under "5. Full Corrections," in Tables I and II.

But although it is by no means difficult or very troublesome to use the formulæ (13) and (17) for finding the first correction, it is always inconvenient to use two tables. It would be manifestly impossible to give a table of corrections to six figures within reasonable limits. Hence, leaving the "full correction" to be found, when desired, by these formulæ, I append a table of "short corrections," so as to obtain twelve places of the result from Tables I and II at sight. The thirteenth place has been allowed for, so that the result may be thoroughly trusted, but in the "completion" an error of one unit in the twelfth place may easily creep in unless "full corrections" are used. These "short corrections" have been calculated from the formulæ (15) and (19), by assuming successive values of the first correction, as  $\cdot 0_{12}5$ ,  $\cdot 0_{11}15$ ,  $\cdot 0_{11}25$  and so on, and calculating the corresponding value of the quotients. But in the table itself these corrections are entered as  $\cdot 0_{11}1$ ,  $\cdot 0_{11}2$ , &c. The limiting correction is reached when the corresponding quotient is the next least to that due to the number 1.001. These twelve places are fully as many as are required for ordinary purposes, and for them only thirteen out of the eighteen places in the tables should be used.

#### SECTION IV.—BIMODULAR TABLES AND EXAMPLES.

Table I applies to natural logarithms giving from nine to sixteen places, according to circumstances, with no corrections, twelve places with short corrections, and fourteen to sixteen places with full corrections.

*Rule to find the logarithm from the number.*—Reduce the given number to the form of a decimal fraction with an integer less than 10.

Multiply and divide by such whole numbers less than 13 as will reduce the number to one less than 1.1, as shown in Section II.

Find the next less number in "1. Table for Interpolation," and first subtract it from the reduced number, then omit the decimal point, and multiply by 2, forming the "dividend;" secondly, add this next less number to the reduced number, and then omit the decimal point, forming the "divisor."

Divide the dividend by the divisor by simple contracted division to as many places as are required. Correct the quotient, as may be necessary, by the table or formula of correction, No. 6 or 5.

Add the logarithms of the divisors and the arithmetical complements of the logarithms of the multipliers used in forming the reduced number, to find the full corrected logarithm.

Table II applies to Briggs's or Tabular Logarithms, giving from nine to sixteen places, according to circumstances, with no correc-

tions, twelve places with short corrections, and fourteen to eighteen places with full corrections.

*Rule.*—Proceed precisely as for natural logarithms, except that instead of multiplying by 2 it is necessary to multiply by the tabular bimodulus, by help of the multiples given in No. 3.

Tables I and II. *Rule to find the number from the logarithm.*—Subtract the logarithm of the next lower power of 10, and then, in order, the next lower logarithm in the lower, and then that in the upper part of the table “2. For Preparation,” and afterwards the next lower logarithm in the table for interpolation.

Considering this as an approximate logarithm of a reduced number, find the correction as if it were a quotient by No. 5 or 6, and *subtract* (instead of adding) the correction, which reduces it to the form of a quotient or approximate logarithm.

Add the resulting number to and subtract it from the bimodulus (which is 2 for natural logarithms) and divide the sum by the difference.

Multiply the quotient in succession by the numbers corresponding to the logarithms subtracted. The result is the number required.

*Examples*, fully worked out, with explanations.

$$\text{Let} \quad N=192\ 699\ 928\ 576=(76)^6.$$

Then calculating the value of 6 nat. log 76 from Wolfram's tables appended to Vega's, and multiplying the result by the tabular modulus we find to twenty places—

$$\text{nat. log } N=25\cdot984\ 400\ 041\ 717\ 986\ 473\ 06$$

$$\text{tab. log } N=11\cdot284\ 881\ 553\ 684\ 748\ 111\ 78$$

These numbers serve as checks to the correctness of the following work.

Here  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$  form the “preparation” of  $N$ . As  $a$  begins with 1·9, where the first decimal place is more than 3 times the integer,  $a$  is multiplied by 6 to produce 11·56 . . ., a decimal fraction of which the integer 11 is less than 13 and more than twice the first integer 5. Both 5 and 4 would have also answered. The divisor 11 is separated off by ), and in the quotient  $c$  the next less number 1·051 in the table for interpolation is similarly separated. This leaves  $c-1\cdot051$  to the right of ), with the decimal point already omitted. Then this difference is multiplied by the bimodulus 2, to obtain the dividend  $d$ . The whole of  $c$  is added to the separated part 1·051, and then the decimal point is omitted, giving  $e$ . As the difference  $c=0\cdot4905$ , lies between  $\cdot0_3106$  and  $\cdot0_4493$ , we can certainly obtain twelve places without correction (Table I, No. 4), and as it lies between  $\cdot0_31$  and  $\cdot0_4894$  we can obtain seventeen places with full corrections (Table I, No. 5). We

*Ex.* 1. To Table I.—Find nat. log  $N$  to sixteen places. The letters refer to the following explanations. Every figure required by the most moderate calculator is inserted.

	$a=N \div 10^{11}$ .	1 92 699 928 576	$a$
	$b=6a$ .	11) 56 199 571 456	$b$
	$c=b \div 11$ .	1 05 1)09 051 950 545 454 54	$c$
$e$	210 209 051 950 545 454 54	)18 103 901 090 909 09	$d$
	· ... .. ———	16 816 724 156 043 63	(8)
$f$	·900 086 123 318 301 099	1 287 176 934 865 46	
$g$	·0 <sub>13</sub>	1 261 254 311 703 27	(6)
$h$	·049 742 091 894 814 074	25 922 623 162 69	
$k$	2 397 895 272 798 370 544	21 020 905 195 05	(1)
$l$	8 208 240 530 771 944 999—10	4 901 717 967 14	
$m$	25 328 436 022 934 502 524	4 204 181 039 01	(2)
$n$	25 984 400 041 717 986 473	697 536 928 13	
		630 627 155 90	(3)
	$d=2(c-1 \cdot 051) \times 10^{19}=\text{dividend}$ .	66 909 772 23	
	$e=2(c+1 \cdot 051) \times 10^{19}=\text{divisor}$ .	63 062 715 59	(3)
	$f=d \div e=\text{quotient}$ .	3 847 056 64	
	$g=\text{full correction, see below}$ .	2 102 090 64	(2)
	$h=\text{nat. log } 1 \cdot 051$ .	1 744 966 12	
	$k=\text{nat. log } 11$ .	1 681 672 41	(8)
	$l=\text{arithm. comp. of nat. log } 6$ .	63 293 71	
	$m=11 \text{ nat. log } 10$ .	63 062 72	(3)
	$n=\text{nat. log } N, \text{ true to 18 places}$ .	230 99	
		210 21	(01)
	Calculation of $g$ . Log $f$ , taking six significant places,	20 78	
	$=\log \cdot 0_8 61 \ 233 = \cdot 935 \ 1206 \ - \ 5$	18 92	(09)
	$3 \log f = 2 \cdot 805 \ 3618 \ -15$	1 86	
	$+ \cdot 920 \ 8188 \ - \ 2$	1 89	(9)
	$\log g = \log \cdot 0_{13} 532 \ 329 = \cdot 726 \ 1806 \ -14$		

prepare, then, for seventeen places, by carrying the quotient  $c$  far enough to allow of obtaining eighteen places, that is, fourteen significant places of the quotient  $f$ . As at least 2 digits of the divisor must remain for the last contracted divisor, we shall require only fifteen places of the divisor, and the last five are rejected (shown by drawing a line under them). The successive digits of the quotient are written to the right after ( following Briggs's use), and are collected in  $f$ . The rest of the process is evident from the notes

made. The result happens to be correct to eighteen places, in place of the guaranteed seventeen; but this is quite accidental, as the last or eighteenth place of all the logarithms used is always in excess or defect.

*Ex. 2.* To Table II.—Find tab. log  $N$  to twelve places by the short corrections.

$a=N \div 10^{11}$ .	1 92 699 928 576	$a$
$b=5a$ .	9) 63 499 642 880	$b$
$c=b \div 9$ .	1 07 0)55 515 875 556	$c$
$d=5 \times \text{bimodulus} \times 10^{10}$ .	43 429 448 190	$d$
$5 \times \quad \quad \times 10^9$ .	4 342 944 819	
$5 \times \quad \quad \times 10^8$ .	434 294 482	
$e=1 \times \quad \quad \times 10^7$ .	08 685 890	$e$
$5 \times \quad \quad \times 10^6$ .	4 342 945	
$8 \times \quad \quad \times 10^5$ .	694 871	
$7 \times \quad \quad \times 10^4$ .	60 801	
$5 \times \quad \quad \times 10^3$ .	4 343	
$5 \times \quad \quad \times 10^2$ .	434	
$5 \times \quad \quad \times 10$ .	43	
$6 \times \quad \quad$	5	
$g$	214 055 515 875 556)48 220 476 823	$f$
	. . . . . 42 811 103 175	(2)
$h$	000 225 270 891 2	5 409 373 648
$k$	0 <sub>11</sub> 5	4 281 110 318 (2)
$m$	029 383 777 685 2	1 128 263 330
$n$	954 242 509 439 3	1 070 277 579 (5)
$p$	301 029 995 664 0—1	57 985 751
$q$	11 0	42 811 103 (2)
$r$	11 284 881 553 684 7	15 174 648
		14 983 886 (7)
$f=(c-1 \cdot 070) \times 10^{14} \times \text{bimodulus} = \text{dividend}$ .	190 762	
$g=(c+1 \cdot 070) \times 10^{14} = \text{divisor}$ .	171 244	(08)
$h=f \div g = \text{quotient}$ .	19 518	
$k = \text{short correction for quotient } 000 \ 225$ .	19 265	(9)
$m = \text{tab. log } 1 \cdot 070$ .	253	
$n = \text{tab. log } 9$ .	214	(1)
$p = \text{arithm. comp. of tab. log } 5$ .	39	
$q = 11 \text{ tab. log } 10$ .	40	(2)
$r = \text{tab. log } N, \text{ correct to 13 places}$ .		

*Ex. 3.* To Table II. Given the tab. log  $N$ , to eighteen places of decimals, to find  $N$  to the greatest possible number of digits. This process is entirely new, and depends upon Section II, eq. (7).

$a = \text{tab. log } N.$	11·284 381 553 684 748 112	$a$
$b = \text{tab. log } 10^{11} + \text{tab. log } 1·9.$	11·278 753 600 952 828 962	$b$
$c = a - b.$	·006 127 952 731 919 150	$c$
$d = \text{tab. log } 1·014.$	·006 037 954 997 317 171	$d$
$\text{tab. log } e = c - d.$	·000 089 997 734 601 979	$\text{tab. log } e$
$f = \text{correction, see below.}$	·0 <sub>12</sub> 322 066	$f$
$\text{tab. log } e' = \text{tab. log } e - f.$	·000 089 997 734 279 913	$\text{tab. log } e'$
$h = \text{bimodulus.}$	·868 588 963 806 503 655	$h$
$l$	·868 498 966 072 223 742	$l$
	·868 498 966 072 223 742	(1)
$e$	1·000 207 248 915 1(8(7 4	179 995 468 559 826
$m$	10 002 072 489 151 9	173 699 793 214 445 (0002
$n$	4 000 828 995 660 7	6 295 675 345 381
$p$	1·014 210 150 400 000 (0	6 079 492 762 505 (07
$q$	·912 789 135 360 000 0	216 182 582 876
$N$	1926 999 285 76·0 000 0	173 699 793 214 (2
		42 482 789 662
$k = h + \text{tab. log } e'.$	34 739 958 643	(4
$l = h - \text{tab. log } e'.$	7 742 831 019	
$e = k \div l.$	6 947 991 728	(8
$m = e \times \cdot 01.$	794 839 291	
$n = e \times \cdot 004.$	781 649 069	(9
$p = e + m + n = e \times 1·014.$	13 190 222	
$q = p \times \cdot 09.$	8 684 990	(1
$N = (p + q) \cdot 10^{11} = p \times 1·09 \times 10^{11}.$	4 505 232	
	4 342 495	(5
Calculation of $f$ —	162 737	
$r = \text{tab. log } e = \cdot 0,899 977$ taken as quotient in	86 850	(1
$s = \text{tab. log } r = \cdot 954 2314 - 5$ Table II, No. 5.	75 887	
$3s = 2·862 6942 - 15$	69 480	(8
$t = \cdot 645 2501 - 1$	6 407	
$3s + t = \text{log } f = \cdot 507 9443 - 13$	6 079	(7
	328	
	260	(3
	68	



The preparation  $a, b, c$ , is similar to that in Ex. 1, but 5 is used as the multiplier by way of variety. The difference  $c-1.070$  being  $.0_355 \dots$ , which lies between  $.0_3653$  and  $.0_3303$ , we cannot be certain of more than ten places without correction (Table II, No. 4). As only twelve places are wanted, we use the short corrections and work to thirteen places. The chief peculiarity relates to the multiplication of  $c-1.070$  by the bimodulus by means of the multiples in Table II, No. 3, omitting all the decimal points. The integer of the multiple is placed under the determining figure of the multiplicand, and the multiple is then written out as far as necessary, neglecting the point, but regulating the last figure. It is best to write in the integer 0, as in line  $e$ , to preclude error. As the quotient must begin with  $.0_3$ , only ten significant places are wanted, and hence only eleven places in the divisor  $g$ , the four underlined 5556 are therefore rejected. The correction  $k$  is found from Table II, No. 6, as belonging to a quotient between  $.0_3217$  and  $.0_3232$ . The rest is sufficiently explained in the notes. The result is accidentally correct to thirteen places.

Here  $a$  is the given tab. log to eighteen places. We first subtract  $11 \log 10$ , or the characteristic. Next, if the remainder were greater than any logarithm in the lower part of Table II, No. 2, we should subtract that. But in this case it is not, and hence we proceed to the upper part of No. 2, and subtract the next less, or tab. log 1.9. This completes the preparation, as the difference  $c=a-b$ , lies between the tab. logs of 1.014 and 1.015 in No. 1, the table for interpolation. Hence, subtracting tab. log 1.014, we find tab. log  $e$ , of which the number  $e$  has to be found. Now, the formula (7) applies only to an uncorrected  $z=\text{tab. log } e'$ , which cannot differ from tab. log  $e$  in the three first significant figures. In the direct process, tab. log  $e$  is found from tab. log  $e'$  by adding the correction found by Table II, No. 5. Hence we have only to subtract this correction  $f$ , which is calculated from the same first six significant figures in both cases, as shown in the example. Having found this uncorrected tab. log  $e'$ , we add it to and subtract it from, the bimodulus, obtaining  $k$  and  $l$  respectively, and thus find  $e=k \div l$ . Now, tab. log  $e'$  cannot be greater than the greatest difference between two tab. logs in Table II, No. 1, "for interpolation," that is, it cannot be greater than  $.000\ 434\ 077 \dots$ , and hence than  $.001 \times \text{modulus}$ . Hence the result of this division  $k \div l$ , must be less in any case than  $(2M + .001 \times M) \div (2M - .001 \times M) = 1.0010005 \dots$ , and must be greater than 1, hence it must commence with 1.000. As the modulus divides out, this conclusion holds for all systems of logarithms. As the last divisor in the contracted division must have two digits for safety, it follows that the number of digits in the quotient  $k \div l = e$ , will be one less than the number of digits in the divisor, that is, than the number of decimal places in the given logarithm. And as the first of these digits is a whole number,

it follows that the number of decimal places in the quotient  $k+l$ , will be two less than in the given logarithm. Moreover, as the last decimal place is always approximate, it follows that the number  $e$  cannot be found with certainty to more than three decimal places less than the number of decimal places in the given tab. logarithm. Hence, in the present case, although tab.  $\log e$  is known to eighteen places of decimals,  $e$  is known with certainty only to fifteen places of decimals (and sixteen digits). But the error in the next place (or digit) will not probably exceed one unit.

Having found  $e$ , we have to multiply it in succession by the numbers corresponding to the logarithms subtracted in the preparations in this example,  $1\cdot014$ ,  $1\cdot9$ , and  $10^{11}$ . This is most readily done in the way sufficiently explained by the notes in the example. The resulting number is accidentally correct to seventeen digits, but only sixteen can be used with certainty. Hence, if we use this bimodular method of finding logarithms and anti-logarithms, we should always find the logarithms to two or three places of decimals more than we require digits in the final number to be found.

V. "On the Potential Radix as a Means of Calculating Logarithms to any Required Number of Decimal Places, with a Summary of all Preceding Methods Chronologically Arranged." By ALEXANDER J. ELLIS, B.A., F.R.S., F.S.A.  
Received January 17, 1881.

In the tables attached to my paper "On an Improved Bimodular Method of Computing Logarithms, &c." ("Proc. Roy. Soc.," vol. 31, p. 381), the logarithms used were all taken direct, or immediately calculated, from the tables of Wolfram and Gray. But a complete method of calculating logarithms should be independent of extraneous aid and be applicable to the first construction of tables of logarithms. I shall here show that my improved bimodular method is capable of furnishing a practical means of calculating natural logarithms, and hence logarithms to any base and to any number of places of decimals.

By the term *positive numerical radix* I shall understand a table of the numbers  $r$ ,  $1\cdot r$ ,  $1+\cdot 0_m r$ , with their corresponding natural logarithms, where  $r$  varies from 1 to 9,  $0_m$  means a series of  $m$  zeroes, and  $m$  varies from 1 to any required number. The word *Radix* in this sense is adopted from R. Flower, 1771, mentioned below. By the term *negative numerical radix* I mean a similar table of  $1-\cdot 0_m r$ , and the negatives of their corresponding logarithms. When these radices (forming an English plural, as *radices* would be misleading) have been